

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) for his work on this legislation. The ranking member, as he said, is a very good friend of mine and he is a pleasure to work with on this subcommittee.

This bill, as I mentioned in my first statement, is strongly supported by wastewater utility systems all over the entire Nation. This Nation has 16,000 wastewater utility systems. These grants would probably be most applicable to the 2,000 larger utilities. There is a \$150,000 cap per grant in this legislation and that is so a small handful of cities cannot gobble up all of this money and so it will be spread very effectively throughout the Nation to do this very important security work.

This bill provides for 75 percent Federal share of this money and then, of course, there would be a local participation for the remainder of the amount, and the total authorization of the bill, as both I and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) have noted, is \$220 million, \$15 million of which would go for technical assistance to the smaller utilities.

We have written this legislation so that there is no Davis-Bacon issue or any other controversial issue, and I think this legislation has strong and broad bipartisan support, strong support from both sides of the aisle. It is cosponsored both by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) and myself and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO). I think it is a measure that deserves and can justify and merit the support of all Members of this body.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 866, "The Wastewater Treatment Works Security Act of 2003." Our nation's wastewater infrastructure consists of: 16,000 publicly owned wastewater treatment plants, 100,000 major pumping stations, 600,000 miles of sanitary sewers, and 200,000 miles of storm sewers. Taken together, our wastewater infrastructure has a total value of more than \$2 trillion.

Significant damage to our nation's wastewater facilities could result in loss of life, catastrophic environmental damage, contamination of drinking water supplies, long term public health impacts, destruction of fish and shellfish production, and disruption to commerce, the economy, and our nation's way of life.

We need to protect our investment in our wastewater infrastructure and be sure it is not used to harm our people, property, or the environment.

H.R. 866 is aimed at filling a remaining major security gap involving our nation's critical infrastructure:

H.R. 866 provides for assistance to wastewater utilities by authorizing critical resources they need to conduct vulnerability assessments and implement security enhancements at their facilities.

H.R. 866 also provides for technical assistance directed to small communities on enhancing security at their wastewater plants.

For these reasons, I urge all members to support this bill.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 866.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### RAIL PASSENGER DISASTER FAMILY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2003

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 874) to establish a program, coordinated by the National Transportation Safety Board, of assistance to families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 874

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rail Passenger Disaster Family Assistance Act of 2003".

#### SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE BY NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD TO FAMILIES OF PASSENGERS INVOLVED IN RAIL PASSENGER ACCIDENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 11 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### "§ 1138. Assistance to families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents

"(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after being notified of a rail passenger accident within the United States involving a rail passenger carrier and resulting in a major loss of life, the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board shall—

"(1) designate and publicize the name and phone number of a director of family support services who shall be an employee of the Board and shall be responsible for acting as a point of contact within the Federal Government for the families of passengers involved in the accident and a liaison between the rail passenger carrier and the families; and

"(2) designate an independent nonprofit organization, with experience in disasters and posttrauma communication with families, which shall have primary responsibility for coordinating the emotional care and support of the families of passengers involved in the accident.

"(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD.—The Board shall have primary Federal responsibility for—

"(1) facilitating the recovery and identification of fatally injured passengers involved in an accident described in subsection (a); and

"(2) communicating with the families of passengers involved in the accident as to the roles of—

"(A) the organization designated for an accident under subsection (a)(2);

"(B) Government agencies; and

"(C) the rail passenger carrier involved, with respect to the accident and the post-accident activities.

"(c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION.—The organization designated for an accident under subsection (a)(2) shall have the following responsibilities with respect to the families of passengers involved in the accident:

"(1) To provide mental health and counseling services, in coordination with the disaster response team of the rail passenger carrier involved.

"(2) To take such actions as may be necessary to provide an environment in which the families may grieve in private.

"(3) To meet with the families who have traveled to the location of the accident, to contact the families unable to travel to such location, and to contact all affected families periodically thereafter until such time as the organization, in consultation with the director of family support services designated for the accident under subsection (a)(1), determines that further assistance is no longer needed.

"(4) To arrange a suitable memorial service, in consultation with the families.

"(d) PASSENGER LISTS.—

"(1) REQUESTS FOR PASSENGER LISTS.—

"(A) REQUESTS BY DIRECTOR OF FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES.—It shall be the responsibility of the director of family support services designated for an accident under subsection (a)(1) to request, as soon as practicable, from the rail passenger carrier involved in the accident a list, which is based on the best available information at the time of the request, of the names of the passengers that were aboard the rail passenger carrier's train involved in the accident. A rail passenger carrier shall use reasonable efforts, with respect to its unreserved trains, and passengers not holding reservations on its other trains, to ascertain the names of passengers aboard a train involved in an accident.

"(B) REQUESTS BY DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION.—The organization designated for an accident under subsection (a)(2) may request from the rail passenger carrier involved in the accident a list described in subparagraph (A).

"(2) USE OF INFORMATION.—The director of family support services and the organization may not release to any person information on a list obtained under paragraph (1) but may provide information on the list about a passenger to the family of the passenger to the extent that the director of family support services or the organization considers appropriate.

"(e) CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD.—In the course of its investigation of an accident described in subsection (a), the Board shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that the families of passengers involved in the accident—

"(1) are briefed, prior to any public briefing, about the accident and any other findings from the investigation; and

"(2) are individually informed of and allowed to attend any public hearings and meetings of the Board about the accident.

"(f) USE OF RAIL PASSENGER CARRIER RESOURCES.—To the extent practicable, the organization designated for an accident under subsection (a)(2) shall coordinate its activities with the rail passenger carrier involved in the accident to facilitate the reasonable use of the resources of the carrier.

"(g) PROHIBITED ACTIONS.—

"(1) ACTIONS TO IMPEDE THE BOARD.—No person (including a State or political subdivision) may impede the ability of the

Board (including the director of family support services designated for an accident under subsection (a)(1)), or an organization designated for an accident under subsection (a)(2), to carry out its responsibilities under this section or the ability of the families of passengers involved in the accident to have contact with one another.

“(2) UNSOLICITED COMMUNICATIONS.—No unsolicited communication concerning a potential action for personal injury or wrongful death may be made by an attorney (including any associate, agent, employee, or other representative of an attorney) or any potential party to the litigation to an individual (other than an employee of the rail passenger carrier) injured in the accident, or to a relative of an individual involved in the accident, before the 45th day following the date of the accident.

“(3) PROHIBITION ON ACTIONS TO PREVENT MENTAL HEALTH AND COUNSELING SERVICES.—No State or political subdivision may prevent the employees, agents, or volunteers of an organization designated for an accident under subsection (a)(2) from providing mental health and counseling services under subsection (c)(1) in the 30-day period beginning on the date of the accident. The director of family support services designated for the accident under subsection (a)(1) may extend such period for not to exceed an additional 30 days if the director determines that the extension is necessary to meet the needs of the families and if State and local authorities are notified of the determination.

“(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

“(1) RAIL PASSENGER ACCIDENT.—The term ‘rail passenger accident’ means any rail passenger disaster occurring in the provision of—

“(A) interstate intercity rail passenger transportation (as such term is defined in section 24102); or

“(B) interstate or intrastate high-speed rail (as such term is defined in section 26105) transportation,

regardless of its cause or suspected cause.

“(2) RAIL PASSENGER CARRIER.—The term ‘rail passenger carrier’ means a rail carrier providing—

“(A) interstate intercity rail passenger transportation (as such term is defined in section 24102); or

“(B) interstate or intrastate high-speed rail (as such term is defined in section 26105) transportation,

except that such term shall not include a tourist, historic, scenic, or excursion rail carrier.

“(3) PASSENGER.—The term ‘passenger’ includes—

“(A) an employee of a rail passenger carrier aboard a train;

“(B) any other person aboard the train without regard to whether the person paid for the transportation, occupied a seat, or held a reservation for the rail transportation; and

“(C) any other person injured or killed in the accident.

“(i) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as limiting the actions that a rail passenger carrier may take, or the obligations that a rail passenger carrier may have, in providing assistance to the families of passengers involved in a rail passenger accident.

“(j) RELINQUISHMENT OF INVESTIGATIVE PRIORITY.—

“(1) GENERAL RULE.—This section (other than subsection (g)) shall not apply to a railroad accident if the Board has relinquished investigative priority under section 1131(a)(2)(B) and the Federal agency to which the Board relinquished investigative priority

is willing and able to provide assistance to the victims and families of the passengers involved in the accident.

“(2) BOARD ASSISTANCE.—If this section does not apply to a railroad accident because the Board has relinquished investigative priority with respect to the accident, the Board shall assist, to the maximum extent possible, the agency to which the Board has relinquished investigative priority in assisting families with respect to the accident.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1137 the following:

“1138. Assistance to families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents.”.

### **SEC. 3. RAIL PASSENGER CARRIER PLANS TO ADDRESS NEEDS OF FAMILIES OF PASSENGERS INVOLVED IN RAIL PASSENGER ACCIDENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part C of subtitle V of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

#### **“CHAPTER 251—FAMILY ASSISTANCE**

“Sec.

“25101. Plans to address needs of families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents.

#### **“§ 25101. Plans to address needs of families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents**

“(a) SUBMISSION OF PLANS.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this section, each rail passenger carrier shall submit to the Secretary of Transportation and the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board a plan for addressing the needs of the families of passengers involved in any rail passenger accident involving a train of the rail passenger carrier and resulting in a major loss of life.

“(b) CONTENTS OF PLANS.—A plan to be submitted by a rail passenger carrier under subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

“(1) A plan for publicizing a reliable, toll-free telephone number, and for providing staff, to handle calls from the families of the passengers.

“(2) A process for notifying the families of the passengers, before providing any public notice of the names of the passengers, either by utilizing the services of the organization designated for the accident under section 1138(a)(2) of this title or the services of other suitably trained individuals.

“(3) An assurance that the notice described in paragraph (2) will be provided to the family of a passenger as soon as the rail passenger carrier has verified that the passenger was aboard the train (whether or not the names of all of the passengers have been verified) and, to the extent practicable, in person.

“(4) An assurance that the rail passenger carrier will provide to the director of family support services designated for the accident under section 1138(a)(1) of this title, and to the organization designated for the accident under section 1138(a)(2) of this title, immediately upon request, a list (which is based on the best available information at the time of the request) of the names of the passengers aboard the train (whether or not such names have been verified), and will periodically update the list. The plan shall include a procedure, with respect to unreserved trains and passengers not holding reservations on other trains, for the rail passenger carrier to use reasonable efforts to ascertain the names of passengers aboard a train involved in an accident.

“(5) An assurance that the family of each passenger will be consulted about the dis-

position of all remains and personal effects of the passenger within the control of the rail passenger carrier.

“(6) An assurance that if requested by the family of a passenger, any possession of the passenger within the control of the rail passenger carrier (regardless of its condition) will be returned to the family unless the possession is needed for the accident investigation or any criminal investigation.

“(7) An assurance that any unclaimed possession of a passenger within the control of the rail passenger carrier will be retained by the rail passenger carrier for at least 18 months.

“(8) An assurance that the family of each passenger or other person killed in the accident will be consulted about construction by the rail passenger carrier of any monument to the passengers, including any inscription on the monument.

“(9) An assurance that the treatment of the families of nonrevenue passengers will be the same as the treatment of the families of revenue passengers.

“(10) An assurance that the rail passenger carrier will work with any organization designated under section 1138(a)(2) of this title on an ongoing basis to ensure that families of passengers receive an appropriate level of services and assistance following each accident.

“(11) An assurance that the rail passenger carrier will provide reasonable compensation to any organization designated under section 1138(a)(2) of this title for services provided by the organization.

“(12) An assurance that the rail passenger carrier will assist the family of a passenger in traveling to the location of the accident and provide for the physical care of the family while the family is staying at such location.

“(13) An assurance that the rail passenger carrier will commit sufficient resources to carry out the plan.

“(14) An assurance that the rail passenger carrier will provide adequate training to the employees and agents of the carrier to meet the needs of survivors and family members following an accident.

“(15) An assurance that, upon request of the family of a passenger, the rail passenger carrier will inform the family of whether the passenger's name appeared on any preliminary passenger manifest for the train involved in the accident.

“(c) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—A rail passenger carrier shall not be liable for damages in any action brought in a Federal or State court arising out of the performance of the rail passenger carrier in preparing or providing a passenger list, or in providing information concerning a train reservation, pursuant to a plan submitted by the rail passenger carrier under subsection (b), unless such liability was caused by conduct of the rail passenger carrier which was grossly negligent or which constituted intentional misconduct.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the terms ‘rail passenger accident’ and ‘rail passenger carrier’ have the meanings such terms have in section 1138 of this title; and

“(2) the term ‘passenger’ means a person aboard a rail passenger carrier's train that is involved in a rail passenger accident.

“(e) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as limiting the actions that a rail passenger carrier may take, or the obligations that a rail passenger carrier may have, in providing assistance to the families of passengers involved in a rail passenger accident.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for subtitle V of title 49, United

States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to chapter 249 the following new item:

"251. FAMILY ASSISTANCE ..... 25101".

**SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Transportation, in cooperation with the National Transportation Safety Board, organizations potentially designated under section 1138(a)(2) of title 49, United States Code, rail passenger carriers, and families which have been involved in rail accidents, shall establish a task force consisting of representatives of such entities and families, representatives of passenger rail carrier employees, and representatives of such other entities as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(b) **MODEL PLAN AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**—The task force established pursuant to subsection (a) shall develop—

(1) a model plan to assist passenger rail carriers in responding to passenger rail accidents;

(2) recommendations on methods to improve the timeliness of the notification provided by passenger rail carriers to the families of passengers involved in a passenger rail accident;

(3) recommendations on methods to ensure that the families of passengers involved in a passenger rail accident who are not citizens of the United States receive appropriate assistance; and

(4) recommendations on methods to ensure that emergency services personnel have as immediate and accurate a count of the number of passengers onboard the train as possible.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report containing the model plan and recommendations developed by the task force under subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN).

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Rail Passenger Disaster Family Assistance Act is a compassionate piece of legislation that deserves to be enacted into law. It has been crafted with the families of rail accident victims in mind.

Members may recall that several years ago after some egregious airplane crashes, the families of the victims of those crashes were poorly treated by the carriers, in some cases the media, and sometimes lawyers. Congress responded in 1996 asking the National Transportation Safety Board to take on an additional role.

At that time we enacted an aviation law that placed the NTSB and a suitable private charitable organization in charge of coordinating the efforts to protect the privacy of crash victims' families and to ensure that they receive the most current information possible from the carrier.

The NTSB has a well-deserved reputation for thoroughness and impartiality in its investigations and in its accident reports. The board's careful work and thoughtful recommendations have contributed significantly to the

safety of the traveling public on our highways, our railroads and airways. By all accounts the NTSB has been equally successful in this new task of helping families cope with the devastating loss of a loved one. Based on this success, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN), Subcommittee on Railroads ranking member, and myself have introduced H.R. 874, a bill to ensure the same compassionate treatment for families of railroad accident victims.

This bill essentially mirrors the aviation law, mandating that the NTSB serve a similar role and including the recommended updates.

The bill also includes one feature suggested by the NTSB itself. That new feature is a one-year task force composed of the DOT, the NTSB, charitable organizations and family members of passenger rail accident victims. This task force, when put in place, will examine and report back to the Congress on how to improve the information flow after an accident has happened and how to make family assistance work better in the future.

Our point here, Mr. Speaker, is that after the incident happens we want to continue communication to make certain we do an even better job should a tragic accident occur in the future.

Although versions of this bill passed overwhelmingly in the House during the last Congress, the Senate has yet to act. Thankfully the Rail Passenger Disaster Family Assistance Act is back on the suspension calendar today in our session. I strongly support H.R. 874 and urge its approval by the whole House this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the balance of time on our side be controlled by gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) will control the balance of the time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me begin by thanking the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN), the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) for all of their efforts to bring this bill to the House floor.

This will be our fourth effort to enact this legislation. Each time it has passed the House, only to die from inaction by the other body. I hope that the fourth time is the charm.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to believe that this bill has not been passed by both Houses and signed into law by the President years ago. The bill simply provides intercity rail passengers and their families the same basic assistance and protection that we provide airline passengers and their families.

In the event of a serious accident involving major loss of life, the bill provides that the National Transportation Safety Board provide assistance to the families of the victims. By designating an NTSB employee to be responsible for facilitating and recovering and identification of those killed in the accident, and by designating an independent agency like the Red Cross as primarily responsible for communication with the family members of the victims, we ensure that these delicate tasks are performed by professionals trained to respond to transportation tragedies.

The bill spells out the specific details of what is expected from the NTSB, the independent relief agency, and the railroads, all with the purpose of getting information to the family members as quickly as possible and providing compassionate care for those who have lost loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, these services and protections have been available for airline accident victims and their families since 1996. It is time we treated railroad passengers and their families with the same respect and compassion. I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would only like to mention and thank the ranking member, my partner on the Subcommittee on Railroads, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN), for her great work. As usual, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and our subcommittee comes up with great bipartisan legislation and this morning is another example of that.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this well crafted bipartisan bill. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure produced the current aviation law, and subsequent updates, that protects survivors and families of accident victims against ill-treatment after major airline accidents. Today, we are considering a closely parallel measure that would offer the same protections in the wake of any major railroad passenger train accident.

The successful record of the Aviation Family Assistance Law since its enactment in 1996, and the strong track record of the National Transportation Safety Board in administering that law, make me highly confident that this bill, once enacted, will be just as successful.

Fortunately, there have been only a handful of rail passenger accidents involving fatalities in the last several years. Just as with aviation, we hope there are none. But it is only prudent to have in place common sense procedures that can be put into play by the NTSB and the other organizations with which it works, if a major accident happens.

This measure is a completely bipartisan product. With the exception of some technical updates, it is essentially the same legislation that the House has overwhelmingly approved in two previous Congresses. This time, we hope the other body will act, which it has failed to do in the past. But we need to get the process moving now, to get these much needed procedures in place.

I strongly urge approval of this well crafted bipartisan legislation.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 874.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the following bills: H.R. 874, H.R. 866, H. Con. Res. 53 and H. Con. Res. 96.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 1130

#### TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF UNITA AND REVOCATION OF RELATED EXECUTIVE ORDERS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-69)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to section 202 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622, I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the "Order"), that terminates the national emergency described and declared in Executive Order 12865 of September 26, 1993, with respect to the actions and policies of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and revokes that order, Executive Order 13069 of December 12, 1997, and

Executive Order 13098 of August 18, 1998.

The Order will have the effect of lifting the sanctions imposed on UNITA in Executive Orders 12865, 13069, and 13098. These trade and financial sanctions were imposed to support international efforts to force UNITA to abandon armed conflict and return to the peace process outlined in the Lusaka Protocol, as reflected in United Nations Security Council Resolutions 864 (1993), 1127 (1997), and 1173 (1998).

The death of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi in February 2002 enabled the Angolan government and UNITA to sign the Luena Memorandum of Understanding on April 4, 2002. This agreement established an immediate ceasefire and called for UNITA's return to the peace process laid out in the 1994 Lusaka Protocol. In accordance therewith, UNITA quartered all its military personnel in established reception areas and handed its remaining arms over to the Angolan government. In September 2002, the Angolan government and UNITA reestablished the Lusaka Protocol's Joint Commission to resolve outstanding political issues. On November 21, 2002, the Angolan government and UNITA declared the provisions of the Lusaka Protocol fully implemented and called for the lifting of sanctions on UNITA imposed by the United Nations Security Council.

With the successful implementation of the Lusaka Protocol and the demilitarization of UNITA, the circumstances that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 26, 1993, have been resolved. The actions and policies of UNITA no longer pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1448 (2002) lifted the measures imposed pursuant to prior U.N. Security Council resolutions related to UNITA. The continuation of sanctions imposed by Executive Orders 12865, 13069, and 13098 would have a prejudicial effect on the development of UNITA as an opposition political party, and therefore, on democratization in Angola. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to terminate the national emergency with respect to UNITA and to lift the sanctions that have been used to apply economic pressure on UNITA.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued. This Order is effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on May 7, 2003.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 6, 2003.

#### EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE NATION

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 213) expressing the

sense of the House of Representatives that public service employees should be commended for their dedication and service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 213

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to honor and celebrate the commitment of individuals who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas over 20,000,000 men and women work in government service in every city, county, and State across the Nation and in hundreds of locations abroad;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials perform essential services that the Nation relies upon every day;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous nation, and public service employees have contributed significantly to its greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public service employees—

(1) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks,

(2) fight fires and crime,

(3) deliver the mail,

(4) teach and work in our public schools,

(5) deliver Social Security and Medicare benefits,

(6) fight disease and promote better health,

(7) protect the environment and our national parks,

(8) defend and secure critical infrastructure,

(9) improve and secure transportation and the quality and safety of our food and water,

(10) build and maintain our roads and bridges,

(11) provide vital strategic and support functions to our military personnel,

(12) keep the Nation's economy stable,

(13) defend our freedom, and

(14) advance our Nation's interests around the world;

Whereas public service employees at the Federal, State, and local level are our first line of defense in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public service employees at every level of government are hardworking individuals who are committed to doing a good job, regardless of the circumstances;

Whereas Federal, State, and local government employees have risen to the occasion and demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and courage while fighting the war against terrorism;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those Federal employees who provide support for their efforts, contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and of the world;

Whereas May 5 through 11, 2003, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week will be celebrated through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends America's Federal, State, and local government employees for their outstanding contributions to our country;

(2) salutes this Nation's public service employees for their unwavering dedication and spirit;

(3) honors those public service employees who have laid down their lives in service to this Nation;